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PTO/SB/21 (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/065,738
	Filing Date	11/14/2002
	First Named Inventor	Soichiro Okubo
	Art Unit	2872
	Examiner Name	JUBA JR, JOHN
	Attorney Docket Number	39.003-AG
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		65

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Group
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

App. No. : 10/065,738 Confirmation No. 6181
Applicant : Soichiro OKUBO
Filed : November 14, 2002
Tech. Cntr./Art Unit : 2872
Examiner : John Juba, Jr.

Docket No. : 39.003-AG
Customer No. : 29453

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This constitutes an Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. The attached documents listed on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08A are hereby brought to the Examiner's attention in the patent application identified above. A copy of Form PTO/SB/08A accompanies this paper.

REMARKS

All of the references listed on Form PTO/SB/08A submitted herewith were cited in an action from the European Patent Office in a counterpart application.

Concise Explanation of Relevance/Copy of Translation
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)

As a concise explanation of the relevance of Japanese Cite Nos. F1 and F3, a copy of the European Search Report also accompanies this paper.

Furthermore, English abstracts of these references are available, and the corresponding abstract is attached to the front of each reference.

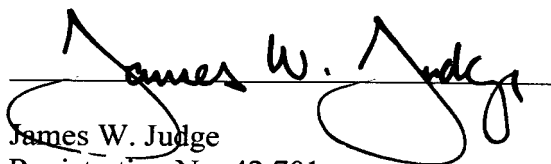
STATEMENT AS SPECIFIED IN 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months prior to the filing of this statement.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider these references, and to indicate so on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08A and make the document of record in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

September 12, 2003


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Registration No. 42,701

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	10/065,738
				Filing Date	November 14, 2002
				First Named Inventor	Soichiro Okubo
				Art Unit	2872
				Examiner Name	JUBA JR, JOHN
				Attorney Docket Number	39.003-AG
Sheet	1	of	1		

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. 1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T6
		Country Code 3 - Number 4 - Kind Code 5 (if known)				
	F1	JP-S60-184225-A /	09-19-1985	Sumitomo Electric Ind Ltd		✓
	F2	WO-01/83845-A2 /	11-08-2001	Itac Ltd et al.		
	F3	JP-2002-296555-A /	10-09-2002	Minebea Co Ltd		✓
	F4	WO-00/17698-A1 /	03-30-2000	Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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